



EMERGENCY NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

State Emergency Operations Center, Camp Murray, Washington
Emergency Management Division, Washington Military Department

For immediate release

News release No. 1

Dec. 5, 2003 1:30 p.m.

Contact: Mark Clemens

Phone: 800-688-8955 (*media only*)

Web address: <http://www.emd.wa.gov>

Local emergency management offices ready for public to report damages from this week's wind and weather

CAMP MURRAY, WASH. – Local emergency managers are waiting to see if the public will be reporting damages from this week's high winds and stormy weather.

Winter storms the last two nights caused in power outages, school closures and traffic problems throughout Western Washington. Damages that occurred will not be covered by the presidential disaster declaration for flooding in Skagit and other counties that occurred in October.

Members of the public affected by this week's storms should take the following steps:

- People who have immediate needs such as food, clothing or shelter, need to call their local chapter of the **American Red Cross**.
- People who are insured should call their **insurance agent**.
- People who have damages to report or want to request assistance because their homes, farms or businesses have been damaged, should call their **local emergency management agency** listed in their phone book. They may be asked for the following kinds of information:
 - ✓ Name, address and phone number
 - ✓ Whether they rent or own the property that was damaged
 - ✓ What was the damaged property—primary residence, secondary (or vacation) residence, mobile home, farm or business
 - ✓ A dollar estimate of the loss (property damage or loss of revenue)
 - ✓ The percentage of the loss that was uninsured
 - ✓ Whether their home is habitable

###

Note to Editors: A fact sheet on preparing for winter storms and power outages is attached in the interest of your viewers, listeners, readers.

Operating as part of the Washington Military Department, the Emergency Management Division staffs the State EOC 24 hours a day year round.